

REMARKS

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action dated November 4, 2008, wherein (a) claims 1-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as lacking antecedent basis; (b) claims 1-5 were indicated as being allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112; (c) claims 6, 9-11, and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Grillait (FR 2576003); (d) claims 7, 8, and 14-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over Grillait, alone; and (e) claim 12 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over Grillait in view of Humele (U.S. 6520318).

By way of the foregoing, claim 1 is amended to provide antecedent basis for the phrase "the containers" in line 2. As such, the outstanding rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, are overcome and claims 1-5 should be in immediate condition for allowance. Claims 6-16 are canceled, thereby rendering the rejections of claims 6-16 moot.

Applicant respectfully requests prompt and favorable consideration of the application.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, the examiner is respectfully requested to issue a notice of allowance in the present application. If there are any outstanding issues that the examiner believes may be remedied via telephone conference, please feel free to contact the undersigned at (312) 474-6300.

Dated: February 2, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Michael P. Furmanek, Reg. No. 58,495
MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN LLP
233 S. Wacker Drive, 6300 Sears Tower
Chicago, Illinois 60606-6357
(312) 474-6300
Attorneys for Applicant